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				HANDLING CLASSIFICATION MESSAGE REFERENCE NO.  UNCLASSIFIED A-436
			TO	Department of State
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	*		FROM:	USUN - New York DATE: 4/27/77
E.O. 11652: TAGS: SUBJECT:			TAGS:	N/A PLOS, CN Communication from Company Hamaian William
49 REF:				Communication from Comoros Foreign Minister Re Ordinance Setting 12-Mile Limit to Territorial Waters of Comoros and Establishing Economic Zone of 200 Meles
ORIGIN ACTION			TION (C. /	
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REP	sci	35	SY	Enclosed is a copy of a note from the UN Secretariat, dated 4/11/77, transmitting a copy of the above mentioned communication.
WR/P	_			
AGR	AID	AIR	ARMY	
CIA	СОМ	DOD	DOT	
FRB	HEW	INT	LAB	YOUNG
NAVY	NSA	NSC	OPIC	Enclosures: $\mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{V}}$ 1. Copy of Note
STR	TAR	TRSY	USIA	<ul><li>2. Communication dated 3/18/77</li><li>3. Text of Ordinance No. 76-038/CE</li></ul>
XMB				of June 15, 1976
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CLEARANCES: ADMIN: MSANTODIE				ADMIN: RWFilby
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REFERENCE LE 113 (3-3)

A-436

The enclosed translation of a communication dated 18 March 1977 is transmitted to the Permanent Missions of the States Members of the United Nations at the request of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Comoros.

11 April 1977

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UN-3509/343

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THE COMORIAN STATE

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

No. 49/MAE

Moroni, 18 March 1977

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Comorian State presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit to him a copy of Ordinance No. 76-038/CE of 15 June 1976 setting the limit of the territorial waters at 12 nautical miles and establishing an exclusive economic zone set at 200 nautical miles; in the absence of any special agreement the breadth of the exclusive economic zone shall not extend beyond a median line all points on which are equidistant from the baselines of the Comorian coastline and the coastlines of foreign countries facing it.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Comorian State would be grateful if the Secretary-General of the United Nations would bring the contents of this note and the text annexed thereto to the attention of States Members of the United Nations.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Comorian State takes this occasion to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of his highest consideration.

The Secretary-General

The United Nations

THE COMORIAN STATE

The Head of State

ORDINANCE No. 76-038/CE

specifying the limits of Comorian territorial waters.

## THE HEAD OF STATE

Considering the Declaration of the Chamber of Deputies of 6 July 1975 proclaiming the independence of the Comoros,

Considering the Constitutional Declaration of 31 December 1975 concerning the executive,

Considering the claims put forward by the countries of the third world at the international conferences on the law of the sea convened by the United Nations at Caracas, Geneva and New York,

Considering the necessity of these measures,

## DECREE AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 - The limit of Comorian "territorial waters" shall be set at 12 nautical miles.

The sovereignty of the Comorian State accordingly extends to the air space above and to the sea-bed and subsoil included in the territorial waters.

Article 2 - The limit of the "exclusive economic zone" shall be set at 200 natical miles.

All natural resources, living and non-living, in the "economic zone" shall belong exclusively to the Comorian State, whether they are on the sea-bed or the ocean floor, in the subsoil, or on the surface of the sea area thus delimited.

Article 3 - In the absence of any special agreement, the breadth of the "exclusive economic zone" shall not extend beyond a median line all points on which are equidistant from the baselines of the Comorian coastline and the coastlines of foreign countries facing it.

Article 4 - This ordinance shall be registered, published in the Official Gazette of the Comorian State and communicated to whomever it may concern.

Moroni, 15 June 1976

Head of the Comorian State

Signed: ALI SOILIH

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

the Secretary-General

/signed7

ABDOULKARIM SAID OMAR

## COPIES

All Ministers
National Defence
All Governors and Deputy Governors
All Services
Radio-Comoros
JOEC
Trade Office